

**WEB-BASED DIGITAL RIGHTS MANAGEMENT (DRM) ENCODER**

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

[0025] A digital rights management (DRM) system includes an application service provider (ASP) that provides a gateway to a DRM engine and acts as a license clearinghouse for one or more client content providers. The ASP provides a web-based DRM encoder that enables a client to encode digital content and package (e.g., encrypt and associate digital rights) the client's content locally. The client may then serve the packaged content to customers. The ASP may monitor and control the web-based encoding and handles license generation and issuance of the licenses. License handling may include delivering the keys required by the customers to access the packaged content and tracking content distribution.